About NeXT

PRESS RELEASE

NeXT SHIPS ENTERPRISE OBJECTS FRAMEWORK

Breakthrough technology bridges gap between relational data and objects

REDWOOD CITY, Calif.- October 26, 1994 - NeXT Computer, Inc. today delivered Enterprise Objects Framework, a breakthrough technology that integrates NEXTSTEP-based object-oriented applications with data from leading relational databases from Oracle Corporation and Sybase, Inc. As a result of Enterprise Objects Framework's object-relational integration capabilities, users can create and reuse enterprise business objects, transforming "data" into "information" and reducing the time and costs of application development and maintenance.

"The Enterprise Objects Framework elegantly and seamlessly integrates object and relational technologies," said Steven P. Jobs, Chairman and CEO of NeXT Computer, Inc. "This will be the catalyst for objects to penetrate the heart of the enterprise."

Enterprise Objects integrate business data with the business policies that make the data meaningful. For example, a customer credit rating (data) has little meaning separate from the policy that determines credit ratings. In addition, a credit rating that is computed according to an obsolete policy is erroneous. As a result of existing within the NEXTSTEP application development environment, Enterprise Objects can be reused in application after application. Therefore, as business requirements change, the policies in effect for a particular business object can easily be redefined and every application automatically incorporates the new policies.

"NeXT is again demonstrating its lead in object-oriented technology, by bridging the gap between object-oriented business modelling and relational databases," said Jnan Dash, vice president of product strategy and technology of Oracle Corporation. "Enterprise Objects Framework merges the benefits of object persistence with the power and reliability of a relational database such as Oracle."

Product Components, Pricing and Availability

Enterprise Objects Framework consists of three modules:

7 The Enterprise Object Modeler is used by developers to build Enterprise Objects (NeXT's term for business objects); and it creates a mapping structure that sits between these Enterprise Objects and the databases used by the application. If the structure of the database changes, the Enterprise Object Modeler can be used to reconfigure the mapping structure.

7 The framework enables Enterprise Objects to run on the NEXTSTEP operating system and is required for all systems on which Enterprise Objects Framework-built applications will be deployed. This runtime module is available for NEXTSTEP today and will be available for PDO early next year, enabling Enterprise Objects to be deployed on servers running HP-UX, SUN OS, Solaris and Digital OSF/1 operating systems.

7 The adaptor layer provides database independence by enabling the framework to communicate to a variety of RDBMSs, transparent to Enterprise Objects. Today, database adaptors for Oracle and Sybase are bundled

with the product. In the future, adaptors for many other databases will be available from NeXT, database vendors and third party developers.

Enterprise Objects Framework is available today at a U.S. list price of $299.

NeXT Computer, Inc.

NeXT develops and markets the award-winning NEXTSTEP object-oriented software for industry-standard computer architectures. Customers use NEXTSTEP's advanced object environment to rapidly develop and deploy custom, enterprise-wide, client/server applications. NeXT is headquartered in Redwood City, California, and has offices in North America, London, Paris, Munich and Tokyo.

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